

REMARKS

Claims 1-49 are currently pending in the application, of which claims 1, 25, and 49 are independent claims. Claim 1-48 have been amended, and claim 49 has been added, to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the invention. No new matter has been added. Claims 1-49 are respectfully submitted for consideration and timely allowance.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the Notice of Allowance mailed October 27, 2006, indicating the allowance of claims 1-48.

Applicants respectfully submit that the amended claims are patentable (and consequently allowable) for essentially the same reasons that they were patentable prior to amendment.

The claim amendments speak for themselves. However, most of the amendments are minor amendments, such as punctuation changes, moving features recited in the preambles of the independent claims into the bodies of the independent claims, and phrasing claim 25, and its dependent claims, in non-means-plus-function terminology. Additionally, other minor changes have been made, such as removing references to “the step” or “the steps” in order to clarify the antecedent reference, and spelling out “M” as “marker” and “TS” as time stamp.

For the reasons of record, therefore, it is respectfully submitted that each of claims 1-49 recites subject matter that is neither disclosed nor suggested in the prior art. Thus, it

is respectfully requested that all of claims 1-49 be considered and allowed, and that this application be passed to issue.

In the event this paper is not being timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account 50-2222.

Respectfully submitted,


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Enclosures: Request for Continued Examination (RCE)
Additional Claim Fee Transmittal